

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. NUM-0159

In re patent application of

Kazuto KOBAYASHI et al.

Serial No. to be assigned

Group Art Unit: unassigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Examiner: unassigned

Title: EXPANSION VALVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56.

- ☒ A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Concise Explanation of Relevancy of the Document

(Fill out if no English translation, partial translation or English abstract is available)

- ☒ Any document having neither English translation nor English abstract relates to the subject matter of the above-identified application. English translation of the document is not readily available; however, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Atty. Docket No. NUM-0160

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date or within three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), OR is being filed concurrent with filing of the Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) or the Request for Continued Examination (RCE). No fee is required (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)).

Respectfully submitted,



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| Substitute for form 1449/PTO | | | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Application Number | Not Yet Assigned |
| | | | | Filing Date | Concurrently Herewith |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Kazuto Kobayashi |
| | | | | Art Unit | N/A |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | NUM-0159 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | BA | JP-08-152232-A1 | 06-11-1996 | Zexel Corporation | | |
| | BB | JP-11-351440-A1 | 12-24-1999 | Eaton Corporation | | |

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